

ENTERED

February 28, 2023

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

In re:	§ Chapter 11
ALEXANDER E. JONES	§ Case No. 22-33553
Debtor.	§
	§

**ORDER APPROVING DEBTOR'S APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING
EMPLOYMENT OF MARTIN, DISIERE, JEFFERSON & WISDOM L.L.P.
AS SPECIAL COUNSEL UNDER 11 U.S.C. § 327(e)**

Upon the application (the “Application”)¹ filed by Debtor to retain and employ Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom L.L.P. (the “MDJW Law Firm” or the “Firm”) pursuant to Bankruptcy Code §§ 327(e) and 330 and Bankruptcy Local Rule 2014-1, as more fully set forth in the Application and all exhibits and attachments to the Application; and upon the Court’s finding that (i) the Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; (ii) this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); (iii) venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; (iv) the Application and the Martin Declaration are in full compliance with all applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, Bankruptcy Local Rules, and Orders and procedures of this Court; (v) the MDJW Law Firm does not represent an interest adverse to Debtor’s estate with respect to the matters upon which it is to be engaged; (vi) the MDJW Law Firm is qualified to represent Debtor’s estate under § 327(e) of the Bankruptcy Code; (vii) the terms of MDJW Law Firm’s employment have been disclosed and are reasonable under the circumstances; (viii) proper and adequate notice of the Application, the deadline to file any objections to the Application, and the hearing thereon was given, and no other or further notice is

¹ Capitalized terms not defined herein have the meaning set forth in the Application.

necessary; (ix) the legal and factual bases set forth in the Application establish just cause for the relief granted herein; (x) the relief sought in the Application is in the best interest of Debtor's estate; (xi) any timely objection to the Application having been withdrawn or overruled for the reasons stated on the record at the hearing on the Application; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is hereby ORDERED THAT:

1. In accordance with Bankruptcy Code §§ 327(e) and 330 and Bankruptcy Local Rule 2014-1, Debtor is authorized to employ and retain the MDJW Law Firm commencing on January 8, 2023, as special counsel, under the terms and conditions set forth in the Application and the Engagement Letter attached to the Application as Exhibit A.
2. The MDJW Law Firm is authorized to perform Professional Services for Debtor that are necessary or appropriate in connection with serving as special counsel in connection with the Travis County Sandy Hook Lawsuits.
3. The MDJW Law Firm shall be compensated for its services and reimbursed for related expenses in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Engagement Agreement, as set forth in the Application and subject to the procedures Bankruptcy Code §§ 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, and in accordance with applicable Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Local Rules, and any orders of this Court.
4. All compensation for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with the above-captioned bankruptcy case shall be paid after further application to and order of this Court, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Bankruptcy Local Rules, the Guidelines, and any orders of this Court.
5. This order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon entry.

6. This order, and all acts taken in furtherance or reliance thereon, shall be effective notwithstanding any objection until further order of this Court.

7. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Application, the Engagement Agreement, or the Declaration attached to the Application, the MDJW Law Firm shall not be entitled to reimbursement of expenses or fees from Debtor in connection with any objection to its fees, without further order of the Court.

8. The MDJW Law Firm shall not charge a markup to Debtor with respect to any fees billed by contract attorneys who are hired by the MDJW Law Firm to provide services to Debtor and shall ensure that any such contract attorneys are subject to conflicts checks and disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules.

9. Prior to any increase in rates for any individual employed by the MDJW Law Firm and providing services to Debtor, the MDJW Law Firm shall file a supplemental declaration with the Court and provide ten business days' notice to Debtor, the United States Trustee, Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Counsel to the Connecticut Plaintiffs, and Counsel to the Texas Plaintiffs.² The supplemental declaration shall explain the basis for the requested rate increases in accordance with Bankruptcy Code section 330(a)(3)(F) and state whether Debtor has consented to the rate increase. The U.S. Trustee retains all rights to object to any rate increase on all grounds, including the reasonableness standard set forth in § 330 of the Bankruptcy Code. Furthermore, the Court retains the right to review any rate increases pursuant to § 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

² As such Notice Parties are defined in the *Order Granting Motion for Entry of an Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Chapter 11 Professionals*.

10. The MDJW Law Firm shall use its reasonable efforts to avoid any duplication of services provided by any of Debtor's other retained professionals.

11. The MDJW Law Firm will review its files periodically during the pendency of this chapter 11 case to ensure that no conflicts or other disqualifying circumstances exist or arise. If any new relevant facts or relationships are discovered or arise, the MDJW Law Firm will use reasonable efforts to identify such further developments and will promptly file a supplemental declaration as required by FED. R. BANKR. P. 2014(a).

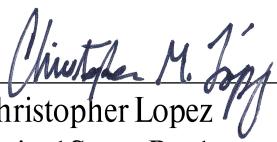
12. To the extent that any of the Application, the Martin Declaration, or the Engagement Agreement are inconsistent with this Order, the terms of the Order shall govern.

13. Debtor and the MDJW Law Firm are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to this order in accordance with the Application.

14. Notice of the Application provided by Debtor is deemed to be good and sufficient notice of the Application, and the requirements of the Local Rules are satisfied by the contents of the Application.

15. This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this order.

Signed: February 28, 2023


Christopher Lopez
United States Bankruptcy Judge

United States Bankruptcy Court
Southern District of Texas

In re:
Alexander E. Jones
Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditor
Debtors

Case No. 22-33553-cml
Chapter 11

District/off: 0541-4
Date Rcvd: Feb 28, 2023

User: ADIuser
Form ID: pdf002

Page 1 of 5
Total Noticed: 12

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol	Definition
+	Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.
#	Addresses marked '#' were identified by the USPS National Change of Address system as requiring an update. While the notice was still deliverable, the notice recipient was advised to update its address with the court immediately.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Mar 02, 2023:

Recip ID	Recipient Name and Address
db	Alexander E. Jones, c/o 2525 McKinnon Street, Suite 425, Dallas, TX 75201
cr	+ Francine Wheeler, Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, Ryan E. Chapple, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, TX 78701-4653
cr	+ Free Speech Systems, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, c/o Patrick Magill, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd., Ste 300 Austin, TX 78741-7417
cr	#+ Leonard Pozner, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	#+ Marcel Fontaine, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	#+ Neil Heslin, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
crem	+ Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditors, c/o Marty L. Brimmage, Jr., Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, 2300 N. Field Street, Suite 1800, Dallas, TX 75201-4675
cr	#+ Scarlett Lewis, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+ Security Bank of Texas, P.O. Box 90, Crawford, Tx 76638-0090
cr	+ Travis County, c/o Jason A. Starks, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767-1748
cr	#+ Veronique De La Rosa, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774

TOTAL: 11

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern Standard Time.

Recip ID	Notice Type: Email Address	Date/Time	Recipient Name and Address
cr	Email/Text: creditcardbkcorrespondence@bofa.com	Feb 28 2023 20:23:00	Bank of America N.A., P.O. BOX 31785, Tampa, FL 33631-3785

TOTAL: 1

BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, *duplicate of an address listed above, *P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Recip ID	Bypass Reason	Name and Address
aty		Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
cr		Carlee Soto Parisi
cr		Carlos M Soto
cr		David Wheeler
cr		Donna Soto
cr		Ian Hockley
cr		Jacqueline Barden
cr		Jennifer Hensel
cr		Jillian Soto-Marino
cr		Mark Barden
cr		Nicole Hockley
cr		Robert Parker
cr		William Aldenberg
cr		William Sherlach

TOTAL: 14 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

District/off: 0541-4

Date Rcvd: Feb 28, 2023

User: ADIuser

Form ID: pdf002

Page 2 of 5

Total Noticed: 12

NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Mar 02, 2023

Signature: /s/Gustava Winters

CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on February 28, 2023 at the address(es) listed below:

Name	Email Address
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Avi Moshenberg	on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com patricia.flores@mhllp.com
Christina Walton Stephenson	on behalf of Debtor Alexander E. Jones Crissie.Stephenson@crowedunlevy.com elisa.weaver@crowedunlevy.com;ecf@crowedunlevy.com
Elizabeth Carol Freeman	on behalf of Interested Party Melissa A Haselden liz@lizfreemanlaw.com kgradney@jw.com;dtrevino@jw.com;jpupo@jw.com;JacksonWalkerLLP@jubileeblk.net
Ha Minh Nguyen	on behalf of U.S. Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;valerie.herrera@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;valerie.herrera@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;valerie.herrera@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;valerie.herrera@chamberlainlaw.com
Jarrod B. Martin	on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty_jmartin@bluestylus.com;valerie.herrera@chamberlainlaw.com
Jason Starks	on behalf of Creditor Travis County bkecf@traviscountytx.gov
Jayson B. Ruff	on behalf of U.S. Trustee jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov
Jennifer Jaye Hardy	on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jhardy2@willkie.com mao@willkie.com

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Page 3 of 5

Total Noticed: 12

Jennifer Jaye Hardy

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jhardy2@willkie.com mao@willkie.com

Jennifer Jaye Hardy

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jhardy2@willkie.com mao@willkie.com

Jennifer Jaye Hardy

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jhardy2@willkie.com mao@willkie.com

Jennifer Jaye Hardy

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jhardy2@willkie.com mao@willkie.com

John D Malone

on behalf of Creditor Security Bank of Texas myra@johnmalonepc.com myra@johnmalonepc.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Jennifer Hensel mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Nicole Hockley mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor Carlos M Soto mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Carlee Soto Parisi mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Mark Barden mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor William Sherlach mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor William Aldenberg mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor Jillian Soto-Marino mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor Francine Wheeler mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor Donna Soto mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor Jacqueline Barden mbrimmage@akingump.com lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

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Page 4 of 5

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Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Robert Parker mbrimmage@akingump.com
lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Ian Hockley mbrimmage@akingump.com
lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Marty L Brimmage

on behalf of Creditor Committee Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditors mbrimmage@akingump.com
lmonreal@akingump.com;bkemp@akingump.com;apraestholm@akingump.com

Melissa A Haselden

mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com
haseldenbankruptcytrustee@gmail.com;mhaselden@ecf.axosfs.com;haselden.melissaa.r104367@notify.bestcase.com

Melissa A Haselden

on behalf of Interested Party Melissa A Haselden mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com
haseldenbankruptcytrustee@gmail.com;mhaselden@ecf.axosfs.com;haselden.melissaa.r104367@notify.bestcase.com

Nicholas Lawson

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine nick.lawson@mhlpp.com patricia.flores@mhlpp.com

Nicholas Lawson

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa nick.lawson@mhlpp.com patricia.flores@mhlpp.com

Nicholas Lawson

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis nick.lawson@mhlpp.com patricia.flores@mhlpp.com

Nicholas Lawson

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner nick.lawson@mhlpp.com patricia.flores@mhlpp.com

Nicholas Lawson

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin nick.lawson@mhlpp.com patricia.flores@mhlpp.com

Raymond William Battaglia

on behalf of Creditor Free Speech Systems LLC rbattaglialaw@outlook.com, rwbresolve@gmail.com

Richard A. Cochrane

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

Richard A. Cochrane

on behalf of Creditor Nicole Hockley rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

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on behalf of Creditor William Aldenberg rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

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Page 5 of 5

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Richard A. Cochrane on behalf of Creditor Carlee Soto Parisi rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

Richard A. Cochrane on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

Richard A. Cochrane on behalf of Creditor Donna Soto rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

Richard A. Cochrane on behalf of Creditor Francine Wheeler rcochrane@akingump.com jlangmack@akingump.com

Ryan E Chapple on behalf of Creditor Donna Soto rchapple@ctrial.com aprntce@ctrial.com

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Ryan E Chapple on behalf of Creditor William Aldenberg rchapple@ctrial.com aprntce@ctrial.com

Ryan E Chapple on behalf of Creditor Mark Barden rchapple@ctrial.com aprntce@ctrial.com

Shelby A Jordan on behalf of Debtor Alexander E. Jones cmadden@jhwclaw.com

US Trustee USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

Vickie L Driver on behalf of Debtor Alexander E. Jones Vickie.Driver@crowedunlevy.com elisa.weaver@crowedunlevy.com;ecf@crowedunlevy.com

Yoshie Valadez on behalf of Creditor Bank of America N.A. mhtbkanhsselffilings@mccarthyholthus.com yvaladez@mccarthyholthus.com

TOTAL: 86